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## Discovery powers down for rolover



### ◆ **Shuttle Update:**

Space shuttle Discovery's external tank and solid rocket booster mating on the mobile launcher platform is

planned for April 13. Discovery is scheduled for final power-down this week to prepare for its rolover to the Vehicle Assembly Building on April 28.

◆ **ELV Update:** The solar array illumination test was completed early Saturday. Closeouts of the GLAST spacecraft's thermal blankets will begin this week. Installation of the Ku-band communications antenna is planned for mid-April.

### ■ **IT Exhibitors Coming to KSC —**

The KSC IT Technology Expo will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 14 in the O&C Mission Briefing Room. There will be many exhibitors in the fields of communication technology, systems integration, engineering and IT products, storage solutions, data management, audio and visual equipment, hardware/ software, and many more.

■ **STS-122 Crew Return** — The crew of the STS-122 mission returns to Kennedy on April 17. Having completed their successful 13 day mission, Commander

Steve Frick and crew will share personal stories, photos and videos of their exciting and challenging journey at 11 a.m. in the Training Auditorium. Please arrive early as seating is on a first come-first serve basis.

■ **Blue Angels Visit KSC** — On Monday, two pilots with the U.S. Navy Blue Angels flew into Kennedy to begin preparations for their involvement in the second annual Space & Air Show planned at Kennedy Space Center Nov. 8-9. Pilots Lt. Frank Weisser, Blue Angel No. 7, and Lt. Dan McShane, Blue Angel No. 8, (below) were greeted by



External Relations Director Lisa Malone and Kennedy Chief of Staff Joe Dowdy. The pilots were later available at the Shuttle Landing Facility for brief one-on-one interviews with the media who also were able to view the Blue Angels' F-18 Hornet aircraft up close.

Keep watching the *Countdown* for more information about the Space & Air Show as it becomes available.

■ **Constellation Update** — NASA and United Space Alliance engineers and technicians working at Kennedy have tested procedures they will rely on to

## GLAST thermal blankets closed out this week

handle and load the propellant tanks that will be used on the roll control system of the Ares I. The latest testing on the new Ares I rocket brought together components from an Air Force missile program with support equipment invented for handling space shuttle parts.

The evaluation is the latest in a series of studies leading to the first test launch scheduled for April 2009. The flight will not carry any astronauts and is mainly a chance to evaluate the performance of the rocket during the first stage of flight.

■ **Reminder** — Dr. Eileen Volpe will speak at 11 a.m. during the 2008 KSC Women's Health Seminar April 9. The seminar will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the OSB II fifth floor conference room. Everyone is welcome.

■ **Onsite Blood Drives** — Two will be available this week:

◆ **Today**, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the HQ Building. All donors will receive a Club Red Program card, T-shirts, discount coupons, free coffee and more! Walk-ins are welcome! Bring photo ID with your first and last name on it.

◆ **Thursday**, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the O&C Building. Please bring a photo ID. For an appointment, please e-mail Lillian Belmont at [LBelmont@floridasbloodcenters.org](mailto:LBelmont@floridasbloodcenters.org).

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**Did You Know?** Wednesday, April 9, is the anniversary of the end of the Civil War in 1865 when Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia.